

# SENATOR JOHN SHERMAN, SECRETARY OF STATE.

Senator John Sherman, McKinley's secretary of state, has been prominent in public affairs since 1844, when he made himself heard in advocacy of the presidency. He was born in Lancaster, O., in 1823. He lived humbly in those early days. What education he got was such as could be had in the country schools of that time. It was not of an extensive sort. When he was 14 years old, he secured employment in a surveying party as a rodman. Afterward he got a clerkship in one of the county offices. At the age of 17 he went to Mansfield, O., and began to read law in the office of his brother. It took him four years to perfect himself in Blackstone and Kent and other worthies of the reading schedule of that date and pass the examination that secured him admission to the bar. This eventful period was reached on Sherman's twenty-first birthday, and the celebration of that occasion made the anniversary more than usually pleasant and memorable.

His career as a lawyer and statesman is familiar to the merest schoolboy of the land. Beginning with his election to the national house of representatives in 1854, his record has been one of successive honors and promotions. After having served as representative he was made senator, and such was the esteem in which he was held by his constituents that his re-elections to the office were as regular as the expirations of his terms. Indeed, since 1854 there has been only one day whereon John Sherman was out of office. That was March 3, 1891, the day after he had tendered his resignation as secretary of the treasury under the Hayes administration and the day before he took the oath of office as a re-elected senator.

Not only has Mr. Sherman been thus continuously honored in connection with the legislative branch of the government, but he has been pushed by his friends very hard for the presidency time and time again. There is no doubt that Sherman has nourished a warm and strong ambition for this high place, and at one time it seemed almost a certainty that he would be the candidate of his party for the coveted post. This was in 1880, when James A. Garfield, Sherman's advocate in the convention, builded so much better than he knew that he himself secured what he sought for his chief.

Four years later, too, there was a strong Sherman sentiment working in the national convention, and again it seemed possible that the Ohio solon would be put in the first place on the ticket, but Harrison was selected. It is generally believed that this was the bitterest disappointment Sherman ever experienced.

Senator Sherman is now nearly 74 years of age. He is white haired, and his tall, slender form bends somewhat under the weight of these many years, but there is grim tenacity in his make up, and his vitality is many times stronger than it appears to be. Mentally he is as keen as a scimitar, though his words are far less acrid now than they were in his younger days. His acceptance of a cabinet position is generally regarded as his political capitulation—a compromise with his higher aspirations.

## LYMAN J. GAGE, SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Lyman J. Gage, the man who is to succeed John G. Carlisle as secretary of the treasury, is a well known and picturesque character in the middle west. He is a man of energy as well as ideas, and, though he has lived 60 years, he can hardly be called old.

Mr. Gage was born at Deruyter, N. Y., June 28, 1836. His parents were also New Yorkers, and their ancestors were among the first settlers of New England. The father of Lyman Gage was a farmer and afterward a merchant in a small way.

In 1840 the elder Gage moved with his family to Rome, N. Y., and there Lyman attended school until he was 15 years old. At that time the Gage family was so large that Lyman thought it would be best for him to begin to make his own way, so he secured a clerkship in a country postoffice. Within a year he was promoted to the position of mail agent on the Rome and Watertown railroad. In 1856 he withdrew from the railroad and took a position in the Oneida Central bank at Rome. Here he acted as junior clerk, office boy and general factotum at a salary of \$100 a year. After serving his employers in this capacity for a year or more young Gage asked for an advance of salary. This being refused, he threw up his position, and, acting on an idea which he had long entertained, started west.

Chicago was the objective point which young Gage had in his mind. Thither he made his way, arriving Oct. 3, 1855. His efforts to get employment in a bank were fruitless, and so he applied at Nathan Cole's lumber yard and obtained work there. It was hard labor. His loaded wagons, steeled his legs against circular saws and now and then took him to driving a team of bulky mules. The pay was small, and the hours were long. After awhile he was promoted to the position of night watchman and put in the long hours between sunset and sunrise patrolling the yard to prevent fires and thefts. A year later he became bookkeeper of the concern.

His first step in the remarkable ascent he made to fame and prosperity was taken Aug. 3, 1858. He had been quietly looking out for employment in which his special talents could have a chance to develop. On the day named he walked into the Merchants' Savings, Loan and Trust Company bank and asked the cashier for a position. To his joy and astonishment, his application was looked upon with favor. They were needing the services of a bookkeeper and would give Gage a trial at \$500 a year.

It was a humble beginning, but it was all Gage wanted. His promotions began within six months. At the end of that period he was made paying teller. In this position he displayed many of the talents which have made him famous. Not long afterward he became as-

# PRESIDENT M'KINLEY'S CABINET.

sistant cashier. He remained with the Merchants' Savings, Loan and Trust company until the position of assistant cashier of the First National bank was offered him. He has been with the latter institution ever since. In time he became vice president and afterward president of this great banking institution.

It was the public record of Mr. Gage in his successful efforts to allay the discontent and rioting of 1887 that gave him his greatest prestige. He was a wonderful harmonizer. In those days of panics and disaster he called meetings of laborers and capitalists, some of which were held in his own parlors, and got them to confer together and settle upon modes of procedure that would ease the friction between the classes.

It was to Mr. Gage also that the success of the World's fair was largely attributable. He was its first president and its strongest backer. He it was also who began the fight for its location, and it would certainly have gone somewhere else but for his untiring efforts.

Mr. Gage has been twice married—first in 1864, to Miss Sarah Etheridge of Little Falls, N. Y. She died in 1874, leaving a son, Eli Gage, now a young man of 30. The present wife of Mr. Gage was Miss Cornelia Washburn of Albany.

In person Mr. Gage is large and fine looking. He stands nearly 6 feet in height and weighs 200 pounds. His manner is suave, magnetic and altogether agreeable. He and his wife are great favorites in a quiet, social way and entertain their friends handsomely. The principal recreations of the great financier are whist and the theater. He is a member of a number of the best clubs of the city and of various associations devoted to business and finance.

## GENERAL RUSSELL A. ALGER, SECRETARY OF WAR.

Mr. McKinley's secretary of war, ex-Governor Russell A. Alger of Michigan, has been a public character for many years. Although a native of the great northwest, he is of New England ancestry. His parents settled in Lafayette township, Medina county, O., in 1835, where, on Feb. 27 in the following year, the future governor was born. Hardships came to him early. At the age of 13 he was left alone in the world without a dollar and burdened with the care of a younger sister and brother. Young Alger was strong and courageous, however, and showed his mettle at once. He found places for his brother and sister and went to work for his board and clothes and three months' schooling per year. Afterward he exchanged his services as a farmhand for a small monthly wage. But he stuck hard to his studies, and by the time he was 20 years of age he was able to take charge of a district school. While engaged as a teacher he applied himself diligently to the study of law, and in 1857 entered a law office at Akron. A year later, having been admitted to the bar, he went to Cleveland to practice his profession.

The strain of hard work and overstudy began to tell on his constitution, and he determined to adopt some other business in which he could take better care of his health. In order to accomplish what he desired he removed to Grand Rapids, Mich., where he and a friend, whom he had taken as a partner, embarked in the lumber business.

For a few months the business seemed to prosper, and young Alger, feeling himself warranted in such a step, took to himself a wife—Miss Annette H. Henry. Misfortune came to him soon after. A Chicago house upon whose welfare the fate of the young lumber merchants depended went to pieces, and with it went the entire business which Alger and his partner had built up.

In August, 1861, the breaking out of the civil war opened another opportunity for Alger. He enlisted in the Second Michigan cavalry and was soon after made captain of company C. At this time Philip H. Sheridan was a captain in the same regiment, and on the promotion of its colonel, Gordon Granger, Alger was sent by the latter to Pittsburgh Landing to induce Governor Blair to appoint Sheridan to the vacant colonelcy. This Alger succeeded in doing, and here began the rapid advance of Sheridan in the army.

In October, 1862, Alger became lieutenant colonel of the Sixth Michigan cavalry and colonel of the Fifth in February, 1865. His promotion to the office of brevet major general "for gallant and meritorious service during the war" came at the close of the war, June 11, 1865.

When he had finished fighting, General Alger laid down his sword and returned to the lumber business. His great success in a matter well known. It was he who first made extensive use of the railroad in getting logs and lumber out of the forests and into the markets. He has interested himself in various other enterprises, all of which have thrived.

One of his highest political aspirations was realized when, in 1884, he was elected governor of Michigan. The vote which made him chief executive in the state was the highest the Republican party ever cast in Michigan. His administration was characterized by strict integrity, and his business methods were vastly useful in the conduct of state affairs. Although he was pressed to become a candidate for re-election, he persistently refused to allow his name to be put forward.

Though threescore years of age, Gen-

eral Alger is as vigorous of body as he is of mind, and in every way he is equal to the duties to which he will devote himself in his new office.

## HON. JOHN D. LONG, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

Ex-Governor John D. Long of Massachusetts, who takes control of Uncle Sam's war fleets and attend to the other duties devolving upon the secretary of the navy, is one of the most prominent of the public men of the Bay State.

John Davis Long was born at Buckfield, Me., Oct. 27, 1838. He was prepared for college at Hebron, Me., and entered Harvard at the age of 14. He made a brilliant record at college and afterward showed particularly as a poet, a gentleman and a man who has long been art which he has practiced as a pastime prominent in Maryland, where he has occasionally in later years. After his graduation from Harvard, in 1857, he was engaged as principal of the Westford academy, where he taught until moved to Maryland a few years later, 1859. He then began to attend the Harvard Law school. In 1861 he was admitted to the bar and opened an office in his native town.

He did not remain long there, however, for he concluded that a young man had a better chance in Massachusetts and Gary formed the friendship that

achieved in the political field. In 1870 the Republicans nominated him for congress in the Fifth district. As the entire state of Maryland was at that time largely Democratic it was a foregone conclusion that he would be defeated. When nominated for governor, in 1879, his very handsome vote was overcome by the same expected Democratic majority.

Mr. Gary has been a delegate to every national convention of his party since 1872, and from 1880 to 1896 has represented Maryland on the Republican national committee.

## JAMES A. GARY, POSTMASTER GENERAL.

The home life of Mr. Gary has been quiet and happy. In 1856 he was married to Miss Lavinia W. Corrie, daughter of James Corrie, a highly respected citizen. Seven daughters and one son were the fruits of this union. The son, E. Stanley Gary, is now junior partner in the old firm.

## JUDGE JOSEPH M'KENNA, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Judge Joseph McKenna of California, in President McKinley's cabinet as secretary of the interior, is a native of Philadelphia. He was born Aug. 10, 1848, and removed with his parents to Benicia, Cal., in 1855. His education, commenced in the public schools of Philadelphia, was completed at the Benicia Collegiate institute, now St. Augustine college, where he studied law. He was admitted to the bar in 1865, and in the same year, at the age of 23, was elected district attorney of Solano county, the duties of which office he discharged faithfully for four years.

In 1875 he was elected to the California legislature. While serving his constituents in this capacity he made a reputation for himself as champion of the public school system, then suffering seriously from sectarian attacks. In the following year he was nominated for congress, but was defeated by a small majority. His friends were determined, however, that their champion should have a seat in congress, so they continued to push young McKenna for the office, and finally, in 1884, he was elected by a handsome majority. In 1888 he was again nominated and elected, and in 1890 the same honor was conferred upon him.

On Feb. 11, 1892, President Harrison appointed Mr. McKenna to the position of judge of the United States circuit court to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Lorenzo Sawyer.

It was while both were serving on the ways and means committee that Major McKinley and Judge McKenna formed the friendship which binds them now, and it was here that each recognized the special capabilities of the other. President Elect McKinley has always held a high opinion of Judge McKenna's ability as a jurist, and his appreciation of Judge McKenna's knowledge of western affairs and the general interests of the interior have no doubt largely influenced him in making this selection.

Judge McKenna is described as being a studious man devoted to his judicial duties, but affable and easy in his manner. His popularity in California has been continuous and ever increasing, and he is regarded as in every way worthy of the honor conferred upon him.

## COLONEL JOHN J. MCCOOK, ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Colonel John J. McCook, the man designated by Mr. McKinley for the office of attorney general, is one of the fighting McCooks of Ohio who fought for the Union throughout the civil war. There were nine of these McCooks. Eight of them were brothers, the other was Major Daniel McCook, father of the eight.

Colonel John J. McCook was born at Carrollton, O., May 25, 1845. When the war broke out, he was a student at Kenyon college, and at the beginning of his freshman year he enlisted in the Sixth Ohio cavalry. Soon after passing his seventeenth birthday he was promoted to a first lieutenant and was assigned to duty on the staff of General Thomas L. Crittenden, commanding a corps of the Army of the Ohio which subsequently became the Twenty-first corps of the Army of the Cumberland. He served in the campaigns of Perryville, Storm River, Tullahoma, Chattanooga and Chickamauga and was with General Grant in his campaign with the Army of the Potomac from the battle of the Wilderness to the crossing of the James river. He was commissioned a captain and aid-de-camp of United States volunteers in September, 1863, and was brevetted major of volunteers for gallant and meritorious service in action at Shady Grove, Va., where he was dangerously wounded. In the same campaign he was afterward made lieutenant colonel and colonel for the same reasons. It was once said of him by a friend who knows him well, "This boy soldier—not over 20 years of age when the war closed—showed at every step of his military career the splendid dash of an enthusiast and the iron courage of a veteran."

At the close of the war Colonel McCook returned to Kenyon college, where he received the degrees of bachelor of arts in 1866 and master of arts three years later. Not content with a mere academic education, he turned his attention to the law and entered the Harvard Law school, from which institution he graduated with honor in 1869. Four years later he received the honorary degree of master of arts from Princeton. In 1890 the University of Kansas, which

has honored very few in this manner, conferred upon Colonel McCook the degree of doctor of laws.

## EX-CONGRESSMAN JAMES WILSON, SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

Ex-Congressman James Wilson of Iowa, to whom President McKinley tendered the agricultural portfolio, is a man well fitted for the position which he is to fill. He is not a native of America, but from the time he was 16 years old his life and work have been devoted to the interests of his adopted country, and particularly in the line of her agricultural development.

Mr. Wilson was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, Aug. 16, 1835, and came, with his parents, to America in 1851. The Wilsons lived first in Connecticut, removing to Iowa when James Wilson was still in his "teens." The education of the lad was of the common school variety, but years of reading and other self education developed his mind liberally, and by the time he was 21 years of age he was able to teach school himself.

This he did for a number of years in the neighborhood of Buckingham and West Union, Ia. At this time young Wilson was very poor, and it was said that he often went about barefooted because he could not afford to wear shoes. However, his frugal habits of life soon enabled him to lay by a snug fortune, and he retired from pedagogy and bought a farm. His interest in agricultural pursuits led him to devote nearly all his time to the management of his fine estate. He became prominent in all movements for bettering the condition of farmers and farmers, and also in the improvement in the breed of cattle.

Recognizing his peculiar abilities, his neighbors elected him to the state legislature, where he served three terms. A few years later—in 1874, in fact—a larger constituency elected him to the Forty-fourth congress. He was re-elected for a succeeding term, and after a lapse of six years was again sent to Washington, this time as a member of the Forty-eighth congress.

At the close of his congressional career he returned to his home in Iowa and again centered his attention upon his beloved hobby, agriculture. Besides the management of his magnificent farm he found leisure to devote much time to assisting the researches of agricultural societies and writing largely for agricultural publications.

In further recognition of his worth and usefulness in his chosen field of effort, Mr. Wilson was made professor of agriculture in the University of Iowa, at Ames.

Personally Mr. Wilson is quite popular. He is an easy and fluent talker in public or private, and is said to make friends merely by his pleasing and unaffected manner.

## GONE AND FORGOTTEN.

Few Members of the Cabinet Make Names That Live Long.

"Can you name the members of President Garfield's cabinet?" asks the Washington Post. "Do you recall the distinguished gentlemen that made up President Hayes' official family?" And then it goes on to answer its own question.

The career of Timothy O. Howe of Wisconsin is an instance. He was a veteran senator for many years from the Badger State and a most efficient postmaster general under President Arthur. Several of the Wisconsin delegation in congress were asked the other day about General Howe's career and acknowledged that it was quite unknown to them, except in a general way.

William Windom of Minnesota, who died so tragically at a dinner in New York, was secretary of the treasury under Garfield. Robert T. Lincoln of Chicago was secretary of war and the only member of Garfield's cabinet that Arthur retained. Thomas L. James of New York, Garfield's postmaster general, became president of the Lincoln National bank and the Lincoln Safe Deposit company of New York.

Wayne MacVeach was Garfield's attorney general. He went upon the stump for Cleveland and was subsequently appointed minister to Italy.

Mr. Arthur's secretary of the navy and secretary of the interior, Senators Chandler and Teller, have by no means waned since holding cabinet office.

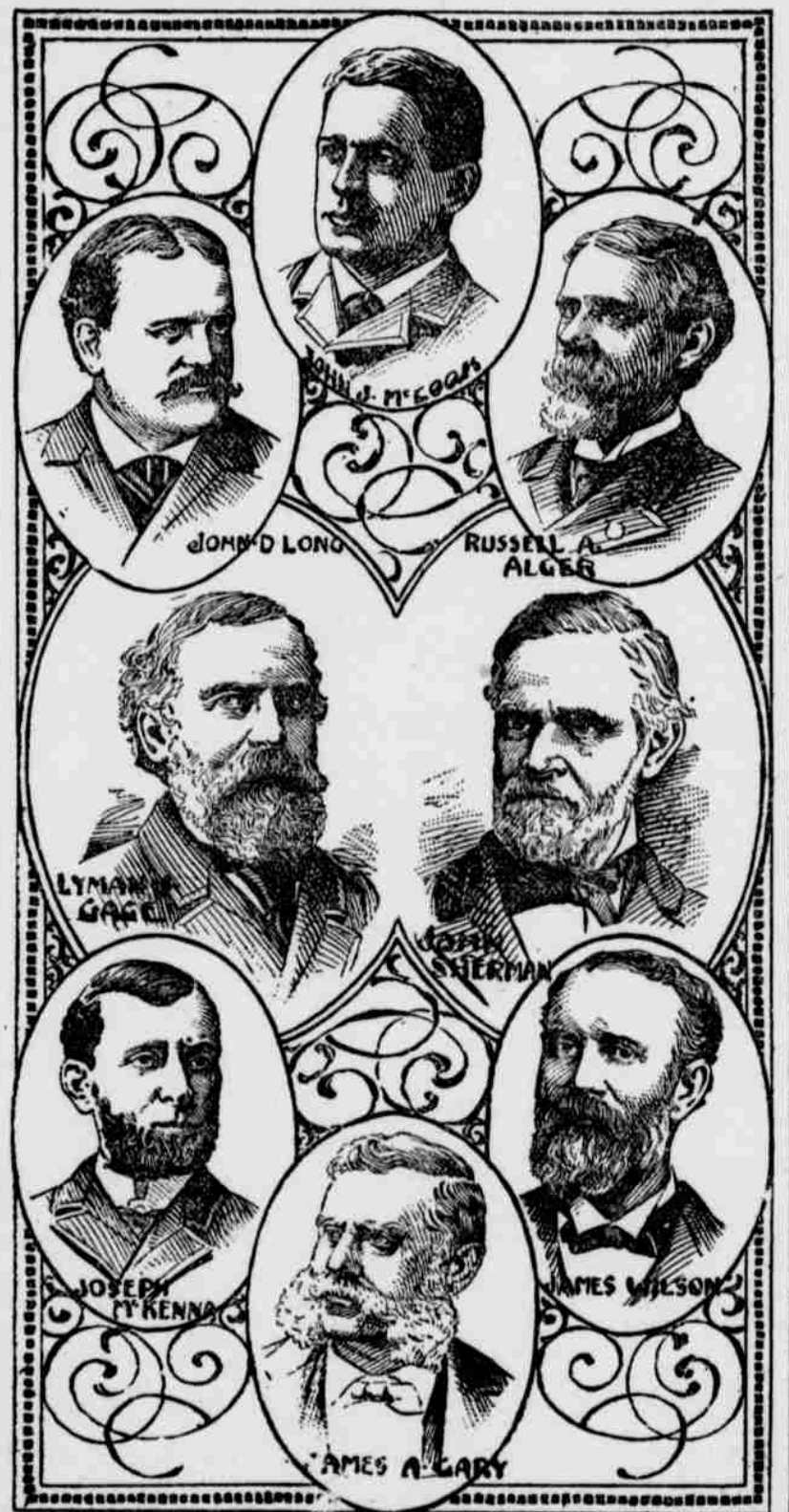
Of the members of Cleveland's first cabinet, Bayard is ambassador to England. Manning's sad death from overwork in the treasury department is often recalled. Charles S. Fairchild of New York, who succeeded him, is president of a trust company. William C. Endicott, who was secretary of war, still lives at Salem, Mass. William C. Whitney, secretary of the navy under Cleveland, is engaged in caring for his great fortune.

Vilas, Cleveland's first postmaster general, is senator from Wisconsin, and his successor, when Vilas became secretary of the interior, was Don M. Dickinson of Michigan. A. H. Garland, who was attorney general, is a prominent attorney in Washington.

Norman J. Colman of St. Louis, the first secretary of agriculture, is a prominent factor in Missouri affairs.

John W. Foster, who succeeded Blaine as secretary of state, lives in Washington.

When William Windom died, Charles Foster of Fosteria, O., was named as secretary of the treasury. He is still active in politics.



He therefore returned to Boston, later has lasted all the years that have intervened removing to the town of Hingham. Here vied between that time and the present in 1869 he became interested in politics.

During the war Mr. Gary was loyal and went before the people as Republican. He has always been a candidate for member of the legislature to the Union. He has always been a ture from the Second Plymouth district, staunch Republican and prominently his election followed. In 1876 he was identified with the interests of his party, re-elected to the house and was after. The elder Gary was an extensive manward chosen speaker. In this position he facturer of cotton duck, the business of was very popular, and his re-elections and warehouse being located in in 1877 and 1878 were by such great Baltimore. In 1861 James A. Gary was majorities as to surprise everybody. admitted to the firm, and the business in 1878 he was elected lieutenant gov- was conducted under the name James ernor of Massachusetts, and in 1879 he S. Gary & Son. The active influence of was chosen governor by a plurality of the new member was soon felt, and the more than 13,000 votes, and in 1880 growth and prosperity of the business was re-elected by a plurality of 52,000 were most marked. In 1892 a branch votes. This extraordinarily large vote was opened in St. Louis, which was regarded as an ovation.

After he had, by election and re-election that proved most profitable. In 1870 tion, served as governor until January, James A. Gary succeeded his father in 1883. He was elected to the Forty-eighth congress, and during the 20 years that congress. He was returned to his seat in have elapsed since he assumed control the lower house for two more terms—the business has continued to prosper. the Forty-ninth and fiftieth congresses. Among the business men of Baltimore After his decision to retire from public he has a "glit edged" standing that is life he returned to the practice of the only to be attained by years of business law, wherein his success has been phe-probity and proved stability.

For several years Mr. Gary was presi- During all the time of his arduous duty of the Merchants and Manufactur- public labors Mr. Long continued toers' association. He is now vice presi- indulge his taste for literature and to dent of the Consolidated Gas company keep pace with the march of science and and vice president of the Citizens' Na- art. He is a many sided man. He has tional bank. He also holds directorships not only published a scholarly transla- in the Savings Bank of Baltimore, the tion of Virgil's "Æneid," but has con- Warehouse company, the American In- tributed to current literature man- vance company, the Merchants and vance company, the Merchants and choice bits of original verse of truly Manufacturers' Insurance company and classic quality. He is also said to be a Baltimore Trust and Guaranty com- monist of art in all its forms of ex- pression.

His greatest prominence has been